



December 16, 2024

Dr. Kevin Sightler
Substantive Change Office
SACS Commission on Colleges
1866 Southern Lane
Decatur, GA 30033

Re: New Program Notification – Undergraduate Certificate in Engineering Leadership and Entrepreneurship

Dear Kevin,

Please accept this letter as notification of a new undergraduate certificate program in Engineering Leadership and Entrepreneurship, beginning August 18, 2025.

The undergraduate certificate in Engineering Leadership and Entrepreneurship is an add-on program with 25% new course content. This 12-credit interdisciplinary program focuses on equipping students with both technical and business acumen, empowering them to lead technology-based startups, manage product development, and foster innovation within existing companies. Through a combination of engineering, leadership, and business courses, students will learn how to identify market opportunities, develop business strategies, and lead teams that turn innovative ideas into viable products and services.

This program will be offered face-to-face at the main Knoxville campus. Please contact me if you need more information.

Sincerely,

Heather Hartman
SACSCOC Liaison

Cc: Donde Plowman, Chancellor
John Zomchick, Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor
Beth Foster, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
Matthew Mench, Dean, Tickle College of Engineering

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